GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1201
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2005
PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF ANCIENT SCULPTURE AND ARTEFACTS
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ancient sculpture and artefacts of different archaeological sites are lying unprotected in the country for lack of watch and ward staff;

(b) if so, whether representations have been received from different State Governments by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to preserve and protect such ancient sculpture and artefacts?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) Ancient sculptures and artefacts of the protected archaeological sites, museums and sculpture sheds are under the care of the Archaeological Survey of India and are properly protected. Where the departmental watch and ward staff are inadequate, private security guards have been employed.

(b) & (c) Representations have been received from different persons for extending Archaeological Survey of India protection to monuments and archaeological sites, and these representations are considered under the provisions of the AMASR Act, 1958 and Rules made thereunder.